

Good Samaritan News

Sunday, September 5, 2010

From the Church of the Good Samaritan in Brunswick, Maine

An ecumenical ministry with a base in the Anglican Tradition

Website: www.churchofthegoodsamaritan.com/

The Church of the Good Samaritan Since 2001 - We Welcome You!

Our community began in 2001. It was started by a group of about six men and women from various religious traditions. We continue that ministry to this day. Come ... join us! Meditation 3:30 p.m. in the chapel — Pilgrim House; service 4:00 p.m. Pilgrim House is the brick building adjacent to First Parish Church UCC in Brunswick. If you can't attend, join us in prayer from your location at 4:00 p.m. EST. Please let us know your email address—we can send this newsletter to you each week.

Mission Statement: We are a loving and diverse faith-based community that comes from a variety of traditions. We gather in Christ's name to seek to do God's Will and bring love and grace into the world. We are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for spiritual healing and growth for all who wish to join us. We offer social action, support, and education to the greater community. An integral part of our mission is to break down barriers of prejudice and misunderstanding while offering a welcoming hand to all who seek inclusion. We welcome you!

The Potter's Wheel

One of the most moving readings today is that from Jeremiah 18:1-11. It is the well known passage about the potter's wheel. A favorite of folks on retreat, it is a great scripture to use for meditation, and calls us to really turn to God to be shaped and formed in God's image. The part of the reading that we often forget about and ignore is the part that has to do with the spoiled vessel that the potter reworded into another one that seemed good to him. There is, underlying this imagery the implicit threat that you 'reap what you sow' and that things can turn out badly for an individual or for a people. However, the promise here is that in God's hands, we can always be reshaped into something good. We have all heard countless stories about people who have made bad life decisions, become involved with the wrong crowd, or relationship, or turned to a life of crime, greed and selfishness. The good news is that many of these people, through the encouragement of 'Angels on earth' have been able through their own choice, and by turning to God, to turn their lives around and change. I believe that there is good in every person, and the potential is there for anyone to turn their lives around. I also believe that at various times in each of our lives we are called upon to turn to God and be 'reshaped' as it were for a new chapter in our lives. This is true when we have lost our spouse or partner, a loved one, a job, have had to move, or are going through a major illness, be it mental or physical. My friends know that God is with you at this time, as the good potter. Turn to Him for help and guidance. Remember that each and everyday there are opportunities to be in ministry in your world. It may be that God will work through you this week to give that encouraging word or hand of hope to another person that they need to turn their lives around.

Amen! Bishop David

Calendar of Worship Ministry Assignments 2010

3:30/ 4:00	9/12	9/19	9/26	10/3	10/10	10/17	10/24	10/31	11/7
	Euc	Euc	Euc	EP	EP	Euc	EP	Euc	EP
Lead	BD	BD	BD	Ka	Deb	BD	Deb	BD	Ka
Aclte	Deb	Deb	Deb	xxx	xxx	Deb	xxx	Deb	xx
Refr	Ray	Deb	Mart	Ka	Deb	Luc	Luc	BD	Ka
Mus	Ray	Ray	Ray	Lucy	Lucy	Lucy	Luc	Ray	Luc

PL/CM-Pot Luck/Community Mtg EP- Evening Prayer CNL: Council

Thanks to First Parish Church (UCC) for shelter, space for an office, and to worship!

Donations needed at this time. Our ministry of pastoral care, hospital visitation, prayer, weekly services, newsletters, and web presence continues to be very active. Please consider supporting our ministry.

Please send your donations in to our office address. They are fully tax-deductible.

Thanks GWI! Thanks to the generosity of Great Works Internet we pay only a nominal fee for our email, web site, and Internet access. Thanks! Please use Great Works Internet!!

Good Samaritan Prayer List

Please send requests to cogs@gwi.net.

Prayer for this week: Lord God, you are my good potter. Shape me to be what you want me to be. Help me to help others to find a positive way in life. We especially pray for... (Send us *updates to this list* :)
Sick/recovering: Dr. Sue, Catalina, Mikko, Jessi, Tom, Barry+, **Discernment/ transition:** David, Mark, Jessi, Robert, Russ, Joan, Barry+, Mark, Kay. **For all those grieving. For those studying for ordination in EACA:** Robert, Ken, Manuel, Maria and Deb and those recently ordained +Jon and +Vangie. **Died:** Ed, Suzie, Jean Marie John, Emil, Erin, Warren, Mary, Jane, Doug. We pray for the dead and those dealing with floods in Iowa; and the oil spill results in the South. **Thanksgiving:** For our faith community. **Travel:** Safe traveling mercies for all traveling this week. *We make the sign of the cross and ask God for deeper faith, enduring hope, and divine love.*

Join others and us around the world in praying and reading the daily Lectionary Readings:

Sun Sept 5	am: 63, 98 pm: 103	Job 25:1-6, 27:1-6	Rev 14:1-7, 13	Matt 5:13-20
Mon Pr18 Sept 6	am: 41, 52 pm: 44	Job 32:1-10, 19, 33:1, 19-28	Acts 13:44-52	John 10:19-30
Tue Sept 7	am: 45 pm: 47, 48	Job 29:1-20	Acts 14:1-18	John 10:31-42
Wed Sept 8	am: 119:49-72 pm: 49, 53	Job 29:1, 30:1-2, 16-31	Acts 14:19-28	John 11:1-16
Thur Sept 9	am: 50, 59, 60 pm: 66, 67	Job 29:1, 31:1-23	Acts 15:1-11	John 11:17-29
Fri Sept 10	am: 40, 54 pm: 51	Job 29:1, 31:24-40	Acts 15:12-21	John 11:30-44
Sat Sept 11	am: 55 pm: 138, 139	Job 38:1-17	Acts 15:22-35	John 11:45-54
Sun Sept 12	am: 24, 29 pm: 8, 84	Job 38:1, 18-41	Rev 18:1-8	Matt 5:21-26
Mon Pr19 Sept 13	am: 56, 57, 58 pm: 64, 65	Job 40:1-24	Acts 15:36-16:5	John 11:55-12:8
Tue Sept 14	am: 61, 62 pm: 68	Job 40:1, 41:1-11	Acts 16:6-15	John 12:9-19
Wed Sept 15	am: 72 pm: 119:73-96	Job 42:1-17	Acts 16:16-24	John 12:20-26
Thur Sept 16	am: 70, 71 pm: 74	Job 28:1-28	Acts 16:25-40	John 12:27-36a
Fri Sept 17	am: 69 pm: 73	Est 1:1-4, 10-19	Acts 17:1-15	John 12:36b-43
Sat Sept 18	am: 75, 76 pm: 23, 27	Est 2:5-8, 15-23	Acts 17:16-34	John 12:44-50

Presentation for PFLAG

On September 14th, Tuesday, members of the Clobber Text Group from our church will give a presentation at Wood fords Congregational Church PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Group at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for this interesting presentation of the scriptural texts that refer to sexuality. For more information about the research and study that this group has done, see our website.

Liturgy Class Continues in September

Resuming Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. time to be announced due to conflicts in the schedules of some of the participants. . We will look at the history of liturgy by examining some of the earliest liturgical texts. We meet in the Pilgrim House Chapel, 9 Cleaveland Street, in Brunswick. All are welcome to attend.

Our web ministry is strong. Thousands visit it each week, and read our newsletter. Please join them! We welcome our new and returning members at our 4:00 p.m. service on Sundays.

Thanks to John Fischer, our dedicated web master, who has completed our new website. Please visit it!

Please do not wear scented lotions, perfumes, etc. to church services or events.

Church of the Good Samaritan Website: churchofthegoodsamaritan.com

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